

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q93733

Masami KIKUCHI, et al.

Application No.: 10/573,346

Group Art Unit: 3683

Confirmation No.: 8781

Examiner: Adrienne C. Joshnstone

Filed: March 24, 2006

For: VIBRATION ABSORBING ALLOY MEMBER, AND RUBBER VIBRATION
ISOLATOR, FLOOR VIBRATION DAMPING APPARATUS, TIRES, STEEL CORD
AND RUBBER SESMIC ISOLATOR USING THE SAME

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This responds to the Election of Species Requirement, dated October 30, 2009. The Examiner has identified the application as containing claims directed to more than one distinct species. The Examiner has required the Applicant to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted. The Examiner believes claim 1 is generic. Applicant has been advised that a response to this requirement shall include an identification of the species that is elected and a listing of all claims readable thereon.

In response to the Examiner's requirement, Applicant elects Species f), a quake-absorbing rubber laminate with flakes of damping alloy member, for examination on which at least claims 1 and 11-15 are readable.

Applicant submits that if any of the elected claims is found to be allowable, claims dependent therefrom should similarly be considered allowable in the same application.

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Applicant reserves the right to file a Divisional Application directed to the non-elected claims.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/SMG/

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Date: November 30, 2009